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# THE QUARTERLY

OF THE

TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

VOL. VII.

APRIL, 1904.

No. 4.

*The publication committee and the editor disclaim responsibility for views expressed by contributors to the Quarterly.*

JOURNAL OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL (OCTOBER  
11-27, 1835).<sup>1</sup>

EDITED BY EUGENE C. BARKER.

## 1. *Introduction.*

In April, 1833, Santa Anna was inaugurated President of Mexico. He was the champion of Republicanism, and great things were expected of him. In less than a year, however, he began to carry into effect a series of measures for the thorough centralization of the government. The national congress and some of the state legislatures were dissolved, the cabinet was dismissed, and for several months Santa Anna ruled as a dictator. In January, 1835, he undertook the legitimation of Centralism. A subservient congress was called, and in May it declared itself competent to reform the constitution of 1824. This it proceeded to do, and on October 3 a decree was issued declaring the establishment of a centralized government.

While these movements were taking place Stephen F. Austin was in Mexico—whither he had been sent by the convention of 1833—pleading for the separation of Coahuila and Texas and the elevation of the latter into a sovereign state. He was thrust in prison, and in October, 1834, Santa Anna definitely rejected his petition. At the same time the dictator decided to station four thousand

<sup>1</sup>Archives of Texas, Records, Vol. I.

troops at San Antonio, "for the protection of the coast and the frontier."<sup>1</sup>

These troops began to arrive in the early part of 1835, and the Texans particularly resented the efforts of a small detachment placed at Anahuac to enforce the payment of tariff duties. In March, 1835, congress decreed, as a part of the program of Centralism, the reduction of the militia throughout the Republic to one man for every five hundred inhabitants. The rest of the militiamen were to be disarmed. The Legislature of Coahuila protested against this measure and was dissolved. Shortly afterward Governor Viesca was deposed and a military governor installed in his place.

All this was sufficiently ominous to arouse the apprehension of even the most conservative Texans. What should they do? A small but very active party—called the War party—counseled secession from Mexico. The great mass of the colonists would not think of such a step, but they realized the necessity of some concerted plan of procedure. Local committees of safety and correspondence had already begun to be formed. Mina (Bastrop) took the lead (May 8, 1835), and the movement spread rapidly. By the end of August every municipality and precinct, or jurisdiction, had a committee, and through these local organizations the call was issued for a general convention or consultation.

The first suggestion of a consultation came from a public meeting held in Columbia on June 28.<sup>2</sup> In less than a month every committee of correspondence in the country was urging it. Encouraged by the general approbation, the people of Columbia held another meeting, August 15, and appointed a committee to arrange for calling the convention.<sup>3</sup> The committee numbered fifteen, and Dr. Branch T. Archer was its chairman. An address was issued, reciting the various causes of the prevailing uneasiness and asking the committees of safety and correspondence to take steps for the election from their respective districts of five delegates to meet at San Felipe in general consultation on the 15th of October.

<sup>1</sup>Brown, *History of Texas*, I 275.

<sup>2</sup>*Texas Republican*, July 4, 1835.

<sup>3</sup>*Ibid.*, August 22 and 29, 1835.

Subsequently, by amendment of the committee of Nacogdoches, the number of representatives was increased to seven.<sup>1</sup> The election was to take place October 5.

Before the election could be held it became evident that war was inevitable. During the latter half of September the San Felipe committee, with Austin—who had just returned from his Mexican prison—as chairman, assumed general direction of affairs. Austin, however, felt that this committee lacked authority, and in order to make it representative he urged each of the other committees to send to San Felipe one member to form a “permanent counsel” until the meeting of the consultation. Only Matagorda and Liberty responded, but on October 11 the council organized itself by electing R. R. Royall president and appointing C. B. Stewart secretary. It numbered five members. In the meantime delegates to the consultation had been elected, but hostilities had also begun, and when the day of assembly came it was found that so many delegates were away with the army that a quorum could not be obtained. Those present thereupon adjourned until November 1, and upon invitation of the permanent council a number of them united with that body.

The permanent council thus had a corporate existence of twenty-one days. Its work formed an introduction to that of the consultation, and some of it was very important. From October 11 to 26 a journal of its proceedings was kept, but this has hitherto in some way escaped publication. In the archives of the State the MS. is bound with the manuscript journals of the consultation and general council. A number of documents are referred to in the journal, and a search through the archives and through the newspapers of the period has discovered about half of them. They are printed as annotations to the text. Why the journal was discontinued on the 27th is unexplained. The council remained active until the 31st, and several of the documents printed below relate to the work of these last five days. On November 3 the consultation finally organized and after making to it a general report<sup>2</sup> the permanent council dissolved.

<sup>1</sup>*Texas Republican*, September 26, 1835.

<sup>2</sup>Journal of the Proceedings of the consultation.

2. *The Journal.*

Council Room Oct 11. 1835.

The president of the Committee of Safety and Vigilance of San Felipe, Col Stephen F Austin having considered it important that He should proceed to the head quarters of the Army of the People left this place on the [8th].

The remaining members of the aforesaid council or committee to wit Col Wm Pettus and Gail Borden Esq together with R. R. Royall a member from the Commee of Vigilance of Matagorda & Joseph Bryan a member from the Comee of Liberty, these two Gent. having come from those places at the request of the Committee of San Felipe to form a permanent Council until such time as the General Consultation of Texas can be held.<sup>1</sup>

Assembled this day—When it was proposed that another member should be added to the body to wit a Secretary & that R R Royall should be elected President—which propositions were carried into effect—C B Stewart added to that body &c in pursuance of the above

Oct 12

Dispatched this day per M Roberts a letter to the commander at headquarters & to Col Austin of which a copy marked (A) is retained<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Committee of Safety of the Jurisdiction of Austin,

San Felipe, October 1, 1835.

. . . This committee proposes that one of the Members of each of the other committees of safety be appointed to come to this place without one moments delay, and remain here as a permanent counsel—such a measure is now deemed to be indispensably necessary.

S. F. Austin,

Chairman of Com.—

Archives of Texas, A, file 1, No. 1.

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<sup>2</sup>San Felipe October 13th, 1835.

To the Committees of Nacogdoches, & St. Augustin

Since Writing you by express forwarding our circular nothing of Importance has come to Our Knowledge we received a letter Dated the 8th from Capt Geo. Collinsworth then at Guadaloupe stating that he would that night enter Goliad with forty seven men under his command. The Result we have not learned.

As no express has lately arrived from headquarters we Resonably suppose that Col. Austin is entertaining the enemy with profers of compro-

13th.

A communication was made per Mr. Montgomery to the Committees of Nacogdoches & San Augustin of which a copy marked (B) is on file<sup>1</sup>

mise till Our men shall all arrive. Or the enemy has hastily Returned to San Antonio and our forces have persued and not been able to Bring on an engagement.

We are all united here and it requires more Pattriotism to keep men at home than to get them in service. Such United Spirits cannot fail of success. But as we learn the enemy expects reinforcements we must Repeat Our Earnest solicitations to our countrymen to turnout.

Your committees will in all necessary Occasions Give assurances of ample Compensation for all sums expended and all services Rendered in the cause of our comon country. The Western mail will arrive today when we will Give you every Information in our Power. We still are scarce of Powder Lead & Guns.

Respectfully,

R R Royall

President of the Council of Texas.

General Saml Houston

Dear Sir

After addressing the committee we received an express by Mr. John Johnson forwarding resolutions of the committees of San Augustin and Nacogdoches which we are much gratified to receive and that you have been selected to the command

A cannon from Harrisburg will probably be here today Col Austin's wish is for you to send a suitable guard by this place and take the cannon to head quarters.

With considerations of much regard we are

Very respecty

R R Royall

P'rt &c.

Archives of Texas, A, file 1, No. 4.

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<sup>1</sup>San Felipe Oct 12, 1835

To Col. S. F. Austin, &

The Comr at Headquarters

Gentlemen

The dispatches from Goliad were sent you yesterday by Mr Borden. We answered Capt Collinsworth in a way that if the enemy intercepted it they will be in no wise encouraged. We sent yesterday morning by Mr Randolph Foster for about 800 pounds of lead said to be at Staffords old place. The cannon from Harrisburg we hope will be here this evening & will be forwarded so soon as we can get a small guard to protect it, unless you may advise otherwise. Every step has been taken to excite

Also 13th October

Received from Nacogdoches a Com. marked (C) on file.\*

Also 13th Oct

A copy of Capt Collingsworths letter by J. C. Kerr of Labaca—  
with an account of the capture of Labahia &c marked (D)<sup>1</sup>

active movements and Mr Bryan a member of the committee from Trinity informs us that more men may be expected from that quarter.

As yet nothing has been received from Ayeish Bayou and Nacogdoches, but we think that assistance will certainly come from there soon, as the excitement prevailing from a suspicion of hostile intentions on the part of the Indians are quieted.

Information by Mr. Bryan received states that Judge Harden at Liberty stated that the Indians after holding a council addressed a letter to the inhabitants conveying their good will & the fact that their council related entirely to their own affairs—He also (Mr B) states that two influential men were sent by the committee of his place to Cow Bayou where he supposes they will turn out 40 men—

The cannon and powder from Matagorda we confidently hope are on the way but for fear that the little opposition in that place may prevent the execution of the order so far as relates to the cannon and a part of the Powder we think it may be as well for you to send a confidential person to meet it—

It is ascertained that the cannon at Tenosticlan is bursted.

Some news of Good authority came in on yesterday of some persons being killed and a family carried off from Little River and that some persons were in Pursuit. That however cannot be other than those small tribes that have been for some time troubling our frontier.

We will add to Col. Austin we have had conversation with many Persons at and Passing this Place and think they Very Generally question the Propriety of any compromise which may entangle us by an alliance with a Mexican chief as the Common Prevailing Idea is that so long as we have any connection with them we cannot expect to be settled in Government.

Very Respectfully

C. B. Stewart

R R Royall

Secty.

President of the Council.

Archives of Texas, D, file 15 No. 1460.

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\*This letter cannot be found in the archives. The same is true of a number of other documents referred to below. They will be indicated by an asterisk \* in the text.

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<sup>1</sup>Guadaloupe Victoria

Oct 10 1835, 11 o'clk P. M.

To the Council of War at Gonzales

This moment Col Milam with an escort of a few men bringing with

Sent an account of the foregoing to Col Austin at headquarters—and another to Genl Houston to be sent on to the Committee of Naco'doches leaving them open that all persons might be put in possession of the fact &c—

This day received from W. P. Huff and C B Stewart the returns of an election held by the citizens of San Felipe for a Captain of Patrol—

Stephen Miller being unanimously elected—presented himself to the permanent council praying that he be Commissioned in form—Whereupon the president and secretary were requested to issue

them three officers passing from Goliad bound for San Felipe, a copy of the following letter will elucidate the matter.

“Goliad 8 oclock A. M.  
Oct 10, 1835

To Captain Ben Smith

Dear Sir, I arrived here last night at 11 oclock and marched into the fort by forcing the church doors, and after a small fight they surrendered, with 3 officers & 21 soldiers, together with 3 wounded and one killed. I had one of my men wounded in the shoulder. They have dispatched couriers for troops to several points, and expect I shall need your aid, there are plenty of public horses near here, but I have not sufficient force to send after them and protect myself. Come on as speedily as possible—

Geo. M. Collinsworth.

You will please communicate with Col. J. H. Moore on this subject of my letter, and since the above was written I have been informed that 50 troops were expected today or tomorrow. Come on as speedily as possible for I never will “give up the ship”

G. M. C.”

On the withdrawal of Captain Smith and Alley yesterday at Burns' we were informed that Captain Collinsworth had passed this place at 11 o'clk yesterday, for supplying the detachment, they encamped for the night. This morning they crossed the Guadaloupe and passed for La Bahia and no doubt will be there by ten or 11 o'clk to morrow. John J. Linn and myself came by this place to hurry on supplies of sugar and coffee, and will take on 50 lbs. of gun powder to Goliad. The Battalion when formed in Goliad will be in want of lead. I have been informed that the Martins of Gonzales have 300 lbs at Dewitts or Santanna, but the information is too uncertain to be relied on to send for it. I shall send several copies of this to the committee of correspondence at San Fillipe. I presume to say to you that the three companies will form a Battalion and march for Bexar. But of this movement you shall be advised so as to produce concert of action. My opinion is that no time is to be lost, as you will see by Capt. Collinsworth's letter that large reinforcements

to him such commission with a draught of such regulations as they may think most fitting The commission accompanied with the regulations were accordingly executed in form and given to Capt Miller—

13th

The following letter & copy of the resolutions of the members of the Convention and the officers of the Army present at Gonzales were received from Col Austin

Gonzales Oct 10. 1835

I herewith enclose the resolutions adopted by a meeting of the members elect of the Gen'el Consultation and of the officers of the Army of the People now at this place by which the members of the Consultation who meet on the 15th will be informed of the wishes of those who are with the army and also of the officers—The recommendations contained in the resolutions were adopted after the most mature deliberation with but one dissenting voice.

It is expected that a definitive organization of the army will take place to day and that the line of March will be taken up tomorrow for Bejar

Signed Austin

To the Members of the General Consultation who meet on the 15th

#### Resolutions

Resolutions of a meeting of the members and officers of the Army present at Gonzales—

have been called for. When the Battalion is organized we will be 300 strong. I presume to say the battalion will immediately march towards Bexar. The names of the prisoners are Lieut. Col. Zandoval, Captain Savanego, and ensign Garcia.

With respect &c

James Kerr.

11 Oct. 7 O'clk A. M.

Express just received from Captain Collinsworth dated last night 8 o'clock. He is somewhat alarmed, he has 10,000\$ in public store, 300 stand of arms and there is a number of Public horses near him. I have returned his *correo* with information that Smith's and Alley's companys are near him, also I send right off an express to the detachments to pass for La Bahia. Col Milam will go with the Prisoners to Gonzales, their names &c.

James Kerr.

Archives of Texas, Records, Vol. III 61-62 (Copy).

Resolved that the Chairman of this meeting be instructed to address the members of the Consultation requesting all of them who can repair to the camp of the volunteers armed and equipped for battle and when so assembled if war is necessary to aid in fighting the battles of the country, but if their services can be spared from the field to determine in holding the Consultation at such time as a majority of the members may agree upon

Resolved That if any portion of the Convention meet at the time and place appointed and find it impracticable to repair to the camp, as invited in the foregoing resolution that they be requested if they amount to a quorum to adjourn from day to day and suspend all action until the first of November

Adopted Oct 11. 1835

Signed S. F. Austin

Cham

Oct 14th

This day appointed Wm Hall Contractor for the Army of the people—who forthwith proceeds to carry into effect the object of the appointment—issued to him a writ of his powers &c

Order to Capt Wm Hall.

San Felipe 14th October 1835.

Capt Wm Hall

You will please proceed with all possible dispatch to fill the call of Col Austin for supplies, for the Army and forward them to Head quarters with all possible dispatch. Contracting for all such things as may be necessary and giving your official receipt for the same and In case of a refusal to obey your demand and knowing it to be of Vital Importance to the Army you will Press into service any Valuables that may be necessary to a speedy and prompt Co operation with our forces at headquarters.

Relying at the same time upon your Prudence and Moderation to so execute the Order as to Distress none and produce Satisfaction If Possible

R R Royall

Presdt &c.

C. B. Stewart Secy

14 Oct

Wrote Col Austin advising him to date of all that has occurred and that has been done toward forwarding supplies &c

Issued an order to Charles C Givens.

Order to Bearer

To Charles Givens Esq

Sir This Committee have thought Proper to press two yoke of Oxen for carrying into effect the requests of Colonel Austin for supplies and as we learn you have care of Mr Williams's this will be to you an authority for delivery of two yoke of Oxen to the bearer.

R R Royall  
President &c

C. B. Stewart Secty

14th Oct

Paid Geo Huff one hundred Dollars to go to Columbia and forward the ammti—[ammunition] artillery &c to the army—this amount to defray expenses—with an order to press Four waggons into the Service—

Borrowed the said \$100.00 from Jas Cochran for which this committee gave a receipt and it is to be taken out the said funds in his hands on deposit by J H Money—

Circular

San Felipe 15th October 1835—

Fellow Citizens

Col Austin has Just Written for more help, help, help. he took the line of march for San Antonio on 13th and Wrote for help, help, help. he fears being forced into a fight before the Nacogdoches troops arrive. Fellow Citizens you have false reports among you I pledge my Head for the truth of what I write when I say to you that your Countrymen are in danger and have written here for help and that in a few days. Your Immediate assistance may save our troops and our country. I would Gladly be in the field

but cannot be permitted to leave San Felipe. Turn Out. Turn Out, and that Hastily. Repair to the Camp.

Your friend

R. R. Royall

Presdt of the Council &c

Circular sent out

Oct 15

Wrote Col S. R. Fisher president of the Committee of Matagorda to send Sugar Coffee and Salt to camp and to forward to this committee a bill of the articles so sent—*“We have some funds—for these things draw on this council—we would like however to be advised how far you may be able to comply with this request that our arrangements may be shaped accordingly”*

Signed R. R. R.

Pressed wagons 1 belonging<sup>1</sup> and to go to Camp  
with the contemplated supplies

16

Gave Capt Stephen Miller an order to arrest Bob (a free negro) alive if possible or dead if it be impracticable to take him alive—he having made violent threats against the whites—and take in possession his property and effects and do all necessary in his opinion toward this end &c &c

On the 17th

Received the three officers captured by Capt Geo. M. Collinsworth at La Bahai who are turned over to the council as Prisoners of Warr Gave a receipt for the same—Names and Rank are Colonel Francisco Sandoval—Capt Manuel Savarigo and Ensign Antonio Garza. Also the President Gave a certificate to a Number Going to Bevil Settlement that this council Will Honour any Drafts Drawn by any Officer elected by their Respective Companies to the command for Expenses supplies &c

The members elected to the consultation having met (agreeable to the Purposes of their election on the 16th) and not being a quorum to proceed to Business adjourned till this day when meet-

<sup>1</sup>The blank spaces indicate words omitted in the original.

ing and not finding a quorum the major Part having taken the Field they

Resolved on adjourning 1st November or as soon as a quorum could be assembled and by Leave of the Permanent Council it was resolved that those members who could not conveniently Go to the Army should be attached to and become members of the Permanent Council. When agreeable to a call of the President of the Council they met at 9 oclock A. M. When the House being called to Order and the following members appeared

Viesca	{	A. G. Perry Jas. Parker J. G. W. Pierson Saml. T. Allen Alex. Thomson
Austin		Wm. Pettus
Matagorda	{	R. R. Royall Ira R. Lewis
Harrisburg	{	Jesse Batterson Lorenzo De Zava[la]

On motion of Mr. Parker of Nacogdoches the following resolutions were adopted

Resolved that Silas M. Parker be and is hereby authorized and required to impl[o]y and superintend the conduct and proceedings of twenty five rangers whose business shall be to range and guard the frontiers between the Brazos and Trinity rivers, and that Garrison Greenwood be and is hereby authorized and required to impl[o]y and superintend the prosedings & conduct of ten rangers on the East side of the Trinity River—and that D. B. Fryar be and is hereby authorized and required to impl[o]y and superintend the conduct and Proceedings of twenty five Rangers Whose business it shall be to range between the Brazos and Colorado Rivers and that each of those superintenders have a right To engage to each ranger that [is] employed one dollar & twenty five cents per day untill the convention make other arrangements and to draw on the council or the executive established by the Convention from time to time for such sums of money as is necessary to defray expences accompanying each draft by account of expenditures.

On motion a committee of five men appointed on the subject of the above resolutions

Whereupon the following persons were nominated by the Chair said committy Daniel Parker Alexander Thompson A. G. Perry J. G. W. Pierson William Pettus

On motion of Mr. Perry of Viesca

Resolved that the President of the Council be authorized to take charge of And provide for the Mexican prisoners to day received from Head quarters of the Volunteer Army

On motion of Mr Perry the house adjourned to wait the report of the Committy appointed by the Chair on Mr Parkers Resolution

Saturday 3 oclock the council met in pursuant to adjournment

Mr. Perry from Viesca Chairman of the Committee to whom were referred the resolution of Mr Parker on the subject of a line of rangers on the frontiers made the following report

The committe to whom were refered the resolution of Daniel Parker adopted by the genl council of Texas for the establishment of a line of Rangers from the Colorado to the Nazish [Neches] River have had the matters and things refered to them under consideration and beg leave to report that in their opinion that the superintendants of the rangers from the Colorado to the Brazos and from the Brazos to the Trinity should make their place of rendezvous at the Ouaco [Waco] village on the Brazos River, that the superintendant of the rangers on the East side of the Trinity River make his place of rendezvous at the town of Houston that the said superintendants have full power and authority to call and contract with men and for ammunition and provisions agreeable to said resolutions and draw on the genl council or executive hereafter appointed for pay—making an exhibition of his accounts for the same that said Superintendants should be Vigilant in carrying said resolutions into effect on being notified of said resolutions that said companies when assembled at their places of rendezvous shall elect their officers whose duty it shall be to report to the superintendants every fifteen days their proceedings who shall report the same to the genl council or executive as the case may be at least evry thirty days by express the expences of which shall be paid out of the public funds of Texas that the companies ranging from the Colorado to the Brazos and from the Brazos to the Trinity shall rendezvous at the Ouaco Vil-

lage evry fifteen days unless prevented by engagement with or in pursuit of the Indians that said companies shall unite when ever in the opinion of their officers it shall from the situation of the country become necessary that said officers be particular not to interfere with friendly tribes of Indians on our borders that said superintendants shall watch over the conduct of the officers and report accordingly and see that full justice is done to the bounds assigned them.

A. G. Perry Chm  
Daniel Parker  
Alexander Thompson  
J. G. W. Pierson  
William Pettus

Which on motion of Mr Perry was adopted

And on motion of Mr Perry the secretary furnish the editor of the Telegraph and Texas Register with a copy of the foregoing resolutions & report

Henry Millard from Liberty  
Peter J. Menard   "       do  
Hugh B. Johnston   "       do  
A. B. Hardin       "       do  
Clabron West       "       do

exhibited their certificates and took their seats

House adjourned to half after seven P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment On the suggestion of the chair Mr William Sims Halls appointment and instructions were presented to the house by Mr Hall who was present were by the house unanimously confirmed as contractor of the army

The chair proposed to the house an address to the people of Texas which was red & refered to committe of five whereupon the following persons were appointed said committee A G Perry Peter J Menard Joseph Bryan A. Houston Daniel Parker

The house adjourn till tomorrow nine o'clock A. M.

Sunday 18th October 1835 A. M.

The House met pursuant adjournment

James W. Parker applied for absence which was granted

The Chairman of the committe appointed on the subject of an

address to the people of Texas presented a substitute to the one proposed which was adopted as follows

San Felipe de Austin Oct 18th 1835

The committee to whom were refered the communication from the chair on the subject of an address to the People of Texas generally have had the subject under consideration and beg leave to report that on the 16th inst they arrived in San Felipe De Austin as representatives to the genl consultation of all Texas that on the evening of the same day they went into a committee of the whole number present being thirty-one—That information had been previously received at San Felipe which was laid before said committee that the Mexicans had entered our territory in hostile array—that on the receipt of said information a majority of said members had proceeded to the field of battle and who together with the officers & soldiers of the army requested that said consultation be postponed until the first of November next—which was agreed to by the committee then present owing to the emergency of the case and Texas being without a head a council had been previously formed termed the genl council of Texas requested each municipality to send a representative and on the meeting aforesaid it was resolved that the Delegates to the genl consultation who were not prepared to join the army should be attached to the general council which was accordingly done who proceeded forth with to business and whose powers will cease on the meeting of the consultation. Thus far fellow citizens have we to show you the authority by which we now act Texas is without a head this council has been formed to act as one until the genl consultation can be held War is upon us the enemy is already upon us—Yes fellow citizens the enemies of freedom trampling our rights and constitution under foot—Many of our patriot and energetic citizens have already taken up arms and are now in the field to repel the invader—Yes fellow citizens to oppose The riveting of the chains of Military despot upon necks of freemen—Fellow citizens this is no chimera of the brain of a few interested individuals or land speculators the time has arrived that all must submit to the military and clergy lay down our constitution which we have sworn to support or rise and assert our rights—Already

has the first blow been stricken many of our fellow citizens are now in the field fighting for the rights of the people of Texas and for the constitution they are a calling aloud for help and will you fellow citizens remain inactive and suffer yourselves your wives and your children to become the slaves of a tyrant Fellow citizens blood has already been shed two companies have met at Labahia the Volunteer company of the people under Capt. Collingsworth and the Mexican troops under the command of Col. Francisco Sandoval the latter were completely defeated with the loss of ten thousand dollars worth of public stores 300 stand of arms one killed and three wounded one American wounded—the three principal Mexican officers were taken prisoners & were yesterday brought to San Felipe Fellow citizens you have the most of you been apprised that Santa Anna has declared the constitution under which all procured our homes null and void and that we must leave the country or submit to a dictator—Fellow citizens the genl council of Texas is disposed to lay all matters and things before you in that is any way connected with your interests they are disposed to make every arrangement in their power guaranteed to them in the exercise of their present responsible station we occupy for the Safety and Welfare of the country already has a line of rangers been established on the frontiers to protect the inhabitants from the savage scalping knife Already have we said we will respect the rights of the No[r]thern Indians amongst us so as not to compromit the interest of Texas and now fellow citizens we call upon you for aid Yes we call upon you as your representatives guarding your interests to march to the field of battle the blow of liberty has been struck it is for you to follow it up or let it recoil with a tenfoal vengeance the resources of Texas are sufficient to defray expences the officers of companies will make his contract and draw and draw [*sic*] on the genl council for pay his drafts will be honored so long as they continue to Fite—arms and ammuniton have been received from New Orleans and forwarded to the army now on their march under the command of Genl Austin for San Antonia at which place Genl Coss is stationed with about eight hundred troops—Fellow citizens this is not the cause of a few it is the cause of the whole people of Texas let us be

united and our cause is sure let us lay aside party feelings and sectional prejudice the cause we espouse is the cause of the people and on the people we call

A. G. Perry Chm	}	Committee.
Daniel Parker,		
A Houston		
P. J. Menard		
Jasper Bryan		

On Motion of Mr D Parker it is Resolved that a thousand coppys of the address to the people of Texas be printed in hand-bill form and Messrs Parker and Perry superintend the printing thereof

James B. Wood appeared and presented his certificate and took his seat—

The house received a resolution from Gen'l Sam'l Houston by the hands of Mr. Garrett which was adopted so far as the word void which is put on file—marked A\*

The house met pursuant to adjournment

R R Royall Presdt.

J G W Pierson Secetary

On motion of A. Houston the following Resolutions were adopted marked B, on file\*

The house adjourned until tomorrow 9 oclock A. M.

Monday 19th Oct, 1835

The House met pursuant to adjournment

On Motion of Mr. Perry for the determined place of the meeting of the Genl Consultation on the first of November 1835 of all Texas as follows

Resolved by the Genl Council of Texas that the Genl Consultation be held at Washington on the first of Nov, 1835—first proposed by the Committee of Columbia.

Adopted with one Dissenting Voice--Marked C, on file\*

The House adjourned till two oclock p m—

The house met pursuant to adjournment.

On Motion of Mr Hood the President of the house presented a letter to Genl S. F. Austin datted the 13th inst in relation to a parole of honor for three officers prisoners of War taken in the

battle at goliad Whereupon be it Resolved that we regret the necessity of delaing of them but that the President be instructed to give them the privalege of the town upon a written parole of Honor and such other privaleges as he may grant Be it also resolved that said officers be allowed the privalege of righting to their friends submitting it to the inspection of the President

R R Royall Presdt

J. G. W. Pierson  
Secty

This day received a letter from the president of the council of War commitioning S. F. Austin Commander and Chief of Texas army marked D on file.\*

The House adjourned till tomorrow nine oclock A. M.

Tuesday 20th The house met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Mr A. Thomson on the subject of a male [mail] route or male routs in Texas Upon which there were appointed a committee as follows J. S. Hood Joseph Bryan A Houston

The President was presented with a Draft of G. Borden in favor of a Mexican Manuel Sanchez for ten dollars for carrying express and the President Issued his Draft on said Borden for that amt in his hand as public funds—The Draft filed marked ED\*

On motion of P. J. Menard Resolved that a committee of five be appointed to enquire into the state of the Public funds and If necessary Report a Plan of Replenishing them for the Purpose of Defraying the expenses of the Army &c &c

When the chair appointed Messrs Zavala, Houston, Menard, Pettus & Thompson a committee to Report at 9 oclock on tomorrow

When the House adjourned to 9 oclock tomorrow

Wensday 21st Oct

The house met persuant to adjournment and on motion of Col Pettus it was unanimously agreed that Mr Boardon [Borden] be called upon to report to this council the state of Funds in his hands as collector Mr Boardon came forward and made a Report which is on file in this office togather with receipts for Monies

paid over which were Receipted for by the president of the council all marked F\*

On motion of Col Pettus the House adjourned for one hour

The House Met pursuant to adjournment and on Motion of P. J. Menard it was Resolved that only five Hundred Copies of the circular &c be printed

The committee to whom were refered the subject of the Finances of Texas Made a report together with Resolutions which were unanimously adopted said Report on file marked G<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Committe to whom were Referred the subject of the Finances of Texas Report that the public coffers should be Replenished therefore

Be it Resolved that Jos L Hood Jacob Garrett & Peter J. Menard be appointed public agents to unite with the committees of safety &c of the Jurisdictions of Nacogdoches and St. Augustine to demand Receive and receipt for all public moneys in the hands of officers and other public agents arising from the sales or entries of Land stamp paper or any other dues collected as public money in the name of the Mexican Government or the state of Coahuila & Texas, also in the name of the General Council of Texas to contract and receive loans of money executing such obligations as the case requires in the names of this council Pledging the Public Faith for the payment of the same and interest at a Rate not exceeding ten per cent per Annum and further the said persons associated as commissioners or Public agents are hereby empowered to act separate from the committees of safety in cases requiring them so to do and said committees or Public agents are hereby empowered to take any steps that the present emergency may require to secure the public funds in all cases where the security of them may be uncertain, Requiring in all cases a statement in writing of the Receipts and amounts paid out and further said Agents or committees are required forthwith to transmit to the President of this council all sums so collected or after the consultation shall meet to the President of that Body for the use and benefit of the cause of the Good People of Texas.

And be it also Resolved that R. R. Royall prst of Council, G Borden Jun J. H. Money Be and are hereby appointed to superintend the collection of all dues of a similar nature with the same powers and duties for the Other Jurisdictions not above named excepting from these resolutions all sums which may be tendered for fraudulent titles, declaring in all such cases that may hereafter be made appear the sums shall be returned with Interest.

And be it also Resolved that each committee associated with said agents be and are hereby required to Publish to the settlers in Texas under the Laws of colonization & Purchase to come forward and make payment with in the time prescribed by the Laws under such Penalties as the Laws may prescribe and further If In their Judgement the case Justifies they shall

268      *Texas Historical Association Quarterly.*

The House then adjourned untill two o'clock P. M.

two o'clock P. M. the house met pursuant to adjournment and proceeded to business P. J. Menard offered the following resolution which was adopted

Be it Resolved that the committees of each Jurisdiction of Texas are hereby authorized to take such measures as may be necessary to forward troops on their march forwarding their acts. for payment to this council taking care to preserve duplicate accounts of all Drafts sent and be it resolved that Committees of Safety of the different Jurisdictions may commission Captains elected to command companies to contract for supplies for their Respective Companies and Draft on its council for the same taking care to accompany the first Draft with a duplicate of the commission

Signed R R Royall. Presdt

A. Huston Secty

The house adjourned till tomorrow 9 o'clock A. M.

22nd House Met and Ishued Commishons to P. J. Menard Jacob Garrett & Jos L. Hood in accordance with the Resolutions

appoint a suitable and capacitated Person to collect the same keeping a regular act. of all acts which they may do, requiring such Persons to give Bonds in the name of their Municipalities in a sufficient sum to secure the faithfull performance of the office assuring them at the same time that the General Consultation will allow them full compensation for the trouble and Great Responsibility on their hands And further the Genl Council of Texas Calls upon the Ayuntamientos and all other authorities to aid in fulfilling these resolutions.

A Houston  
Lorenza de Zavala  
Wm. Pettus  
Alexr. Thomson  
Peter J. Menard

The council met agreeable to adjournment and after some discussion the foregoing Report and Resolutions were unanimously adopted

Signed R R Royall

President of the Genl Council of Texas.

A Houston,

Secty.

San Felipe 21st October 1835.

Archives of Texas, A file 1 No. 7.

today adopted as will be found on file marked Letter G as above entered

R R Royall President

A. Houston Secty

The council adopted the Report of the Committee on Mail Routs which is on file marked H<sup>1</sup>

Also a resolution Recommending a compromise of the difficulties between Texas and the Mexican forces which is on file marked I<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Committee to whom were refered the subject in regard to the establishment of Mail Routs—

Beg leave to Report that where as our country is in a deranged Situation—are armies are in the field and the immergency of our cituation is such that all important nuse should be conveyed to the difrent parts of our country with all possible dispatch—and there being but few Routs now established—the committee are of the opinion there aught to be such Routs established as would accomplish that *End*—and would therefore offer the following Resolution.

Be it Resolved by the Genl Counsel of Texas that their be a Mail Rout established from San Felipe de Austin to San Augustine passing through the Towns of Washington and Nacogdoches and also one from San Augustine to Zavalla—and the committee would further recommend the rout now established from this place by the Way of Liberty to the U. S. to pass through all the important towns lying near the Rout—and be it further resolved that a rout be also established from this place to Velasco leading through the towns of Columbia and Brazoria

Joseph Bryan	} Committee
J L Hood	
A Houston	

Adopted Oct 19th 1835

R R Royall  
President.

A Houston  
Sect.

Archives of Texas, A file 1 No. 6.

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<sup>2</sup>On motion of Jacob Garrett

Be it Resolved by the General Council of Texas that we Recommend to the commander in chief & to the members of the consultation in camp that they use every Possible means to adjust our Present Difficulties with the Mexican Army without Bloodshed hereby approving of any arrangement made by them to produce said effect Provided in said adjustment the Military is withdrawn from our country and our Republican Principles Preserved and that our commissioners take a copy of this resolution to

The House then adjourned to 9 o'clock A. M. to morrow  
23rd the House Met pursuant to adjournment

And after due deliberation Released one of the officers Prisoners  
Capt Manuel Savanego Said Release on File marked J<sup>1</sup>

Alexander Thompson asked Leave of absence untill the first of  
*Nov* which was granted By the Council

The Council Received Capt Manuel Savarigos Declaration  
which is on File marked K.\* and returned those of *Col* Sandovals  
and ensign Garzia

The House went into a Committee of the Whole on the subject  
of Mails &c and after due deliberation on the Matter appointed  
John R. Jones as Post Master General to take charge of the affairs  
and to put them into operation as soon as may be

Signed R. R. Royall Prest

A. Houston Seety

Reed Mr. Freol's account for Blacksmiths work which was Paid  
out of the Public funds and Receipted for \$10.50

The House adjourned untill 9 o'clock A M to morrow

24th The House Met Pursuant to adjournment—

Ishued Gail Borden Jun a commission (signed on 22nd Inst)

Present to the committees of safety at St. Augustine & Nacogdoches and  
that one be forwarded to the commander in chief of our forces

Signed R R Royall,

Presdt

A. Houston, Seety

Archives of Bexar, A, file 1 No. 14.

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<sup>1</sup>San Felipe de Austin

Oct. 23nd 1835

To All whom it may Concern this will Make known that the Genl Coun-  
cil of Texas from the Solicitation of Genl S. F. Austin Commander in  
chief and from its having been satisfactorily Proven to the council that  
Capt. Manuel Savarigo is a man of Liberal and Republican Principles  
which appears in evidence before the council by information Received of  
his former acts as well as by his own Declaration left on file in this office  
—therefore it was Resolved that the said Capt Savarigo have liberty to  
depart unmolested and that he be treated with civility by all officers en-  
gaged in the common cause of the people of Texas and the principles of  
the constitution of eighteen hundred and twenty four for which we declair.

Signed R. R. Royall

President.

A Houston

Seety.

Archives of Texas, D, file 15, No. 1464.

as collector of Public dues and instructed him to Publish that Drafts of officers of Companies accepted by the President of the Council will be received in Payment.

This day Ishued to P. H. Jack authority to obtain supplies and Guns for a small company of volunteers and Give his Receipt as Superintendant.

Monday 26th Oct The House met and Passed a Resolution granting 25 men to be added to the Company of Rangers commanded by Garrison Greenwood

R. R. Royall  
Prest

A Houston  
Secty

On Motion of Daniel Parker of Nacogdoches it was Resolved that the Genl Council address the people of the U. States making an appeal to their Philanthropy in behalf of the People of Texas whereupon the following address was unanimously adopted and ordered to be printed and circulated the above address is on file Marked M<sup>1</sup>

R. R. Royall  
Prest

A. Houston  
Secty

<sup>1</sup>*To the Citizens of the United States of the North.*

The general council of all Texas, by a resolution unanimously adopted, have determined to address you in behalf of suffering Texas, and to invoke your assistance.

A few plain facts will suffice to explain to you the political condition in which we are placed, and to satisfy you that we are engaged in a contest just and honorable and one which should command universal admiration and sympathy.

Our citizens were invited to settle Texas by a government of a federal republican character, having for its model that of the government of the United States of the North. Under that invitation, and that promise of protection to our lives, persons and property, thousands emigrated here, and have subdued a vast and extended wilderness to the purposes of agriculture, and in place of the solitary region inhabited hitherto only by the savage and the beast, now present a country prosperous in the highest degree, with a population varying between sixty and one hundred thousand inhabitants, and having on its whole face inscribed one universal assurance of its future greatness and prosperity.

The House adourned till 9 oclock A. M. to morrow

27th The House Met persuant to adjournment and proceeded to business

And Motion Passed a Resolution closing the Land Office stop-

Under this form of government and this invitation, thousands have brought their property to this country, and invested thousands upon thousands of dollars in land. They have expatriated themselves from their native country, torn themselves from connexions dear, given up the conveniences and luxuries of life, and encountered for years back toils and dangers and privations of every sort.

They have given security to the Mexican frontiers from Indian depredations, and made the mountains the boundary of the savage. And now, when we have accomplished all this, when we had just fairly established ourselves in peace and plenty, just brought around us our families and friends, the form of government under which we had been born and educated, and the one only to which we would have sworn allegiance, is destroyed by the usurper, Santa Anna, and a military central government established in its stead.

To this new form of government the people of Texas have refused to submit. They ground their opposition upon the facts that they have sworn to support the republican federative government of Mexico, and that their duty requires them now to stand out in opposition.

Texas was one of the units that composed the government by the national constituent congress of 1824. She was acknowledged a sovereign and independent member of the confederacy. As a sovereign member she voluntarily united in the confederacy that forms the government, and upon the breaking up of that government she has unquestionably the right to accede or to reject the new one that may be proposed.

The one now proposed is in opposition to her wishes, interests, and the education of the people. It protects only the interests of the military and the clergy, securing privileges to the one and intolerance of religion to the other. Such being its character, and our rights undoubted, the people of Texas, with one united voice, have rejected the new form of government, and have resolved to abide by their oaths to sustain the constitution. Public sentiment has already declared that Texas should be organized as a state government, under the constitution of 1824, or such other form of government as circumstances may require.

Members to a convention have already been elected, and were to have met on the 15th of the present month. The invasion of the country by General Cos has, however, thus far prevented their meeting, as nearly every member is now in the field of war. At this time our army is besieging General Cos in San Antonio, but he is hourly expecting a reinforcement, and the people of Texas want aid of their own fellow-citizens, friends, and relations, of the United States of the North.

What number of mercenary soldiers will invade our country we know

ping Surveying &c untill the session of the Consultation Said  
Preamble & Resolutions on file Marked N<sup>1</sup>

not, but this much we do know, that the whole force of the nation that can possibly be spared will be sent to Texas, and we believe we have to fight superior numbers. But one sentiment animates every bosom, and every one is determined on "victory or death."

Citizens of the United States of the North, we are but one people. Our fathers, side by side, fought the battles of the revolution. We side by side, fought the battles of the war of 1812 and 1815. We were born under the same government—taught the same political creed, and we have wandered where danger and tyranny threaten us. You are united to us by all the sacred ties that can bind one people to another. You are, many of you, our fathers and brother—among you dwell our sisters and mothers—we are aliens to you only in country; our principles both moral and political are the same—our interest is one, and we require and ask your aid, and we earnestly appeal to your patriotism and generosity. We invite you to our country—we have land in abundance, and it shall be liberally bestowed on you. We have the finest country on the face of the globe. We invite you to enjoy it with us, and we pledge to you, as we are authorized to do, the lands of Texas and the honor and faith of the people, that every volunteer in our cause shall not only justly but generously be rewarded.

The cause of Texas is plainly marked out. She will drive every Mexican soldier beyond her limits, or the people of Texas will leave before San Antonio the bones of their bodies. We will secure on a firm and solid basis our constitutional rights and privileges, or we will leave Texas a howling wilderness.

We know that right is on our side, and we are now marching to the field of battle, reiterating our fathers' motto, "to live free or die." And to the people of the United States of the North we send this assurance, that though numbers may overwhelm us, no other feeling than that of the genuine American glowed in our bosoms, and though danger and destruction await us, no friend of theirs proved recreant to his country.

Done in the council hall on the 26th day of October, 1835.

A. Houston, *Secretary.*

R. R. Royall, *President.*

Niles' Register, XLIX 234-235, reprinted from the *Red River Herald*—extra—November 6, 1835.

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<sup>1</sup>Whereas it has been represented to this body that certain individuals are taking the advantage of their countrymen, while they are in the field, in the service of their country, by procuring lands, and surveying the same, when the right justly belongs to the men who are serving the country; and whereas great injustice might be done by such a course, the council are of the opinion that all land matters ought to cease until the meeting of the consultation, at which time the matter will be properly taken into consideration; therefore,

Ordered the printing of an address to the people 500 copies  
 Authorized J. H. Blount to instruct the commissioners to cease  
 their operations in pursuance of the above Resolutions

[Here the journal ends, but the council continued its activity  
 until the 31st. On the 27th a resolution was passed authorizing  
 a loan of \$100,000;<sup>1</sup> on the 30th the report of the committee on

*Resolved*, That all the land offices be closed, until the present difficulties  
 of Texas are removed, or until the consultation meets, and acts on the  
 matter. And further, that all commissioners cease to grant orders of sur-  
 veys, and that all surveyors cease their operations in surveying, and that  
 all transactions whatever, in regard to public lands, shall cease until the  
 consultation meets and act on the subject; at the same time giving assur-  
 ance that all in the service of their country will be justly dealt by, and  
 that no advantage will be suffered to be taken of them; and that those  
 who are defending their rights and country shall have their full quantity  
 of land, as guaranteed by the colonization law.

(Signed) R. R. Royall,

A. Houston, *Secretary*.

*President*.

*Telegraph and Texas Register*, October 31, 1835. Austin Papers, 21.

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<sup>1</sup>[The document which follows is endorsed on the reverse side, "2. Loan  
 Resolution O 27 Oct 1835." The resolution provided originally for the  
 joint agency of Thomas F. McKinney and Edmund Andrews, but subse-  
 quently a pen was drawn through those parts of the resolution which are  
 enclosed in brackets, thus leaving Andrews sole agent. On the same day,  
 however, a commission was issued to McKinney and no notice seems to  
 have been taken of Andrews.]

In meeting of the General Council of all Texas.

*Be it Resolved* that the present critical condition of Texas requires that  
 some means should be resorted to for the purpose of procuring a loan of  
 One Hundred thousand dollars and that this council on the Part and in  
 behalf of their constituents (The People of all Texas), having Great con-  
 fidence in the Integrity and capacity of their Fellow Citizen[s] Edmund  
 Andrews [and Thomas F McKinney] and therefore have appointed [them  
 or either of them to act separately or jointly] him to Repair Immediately  
 to New Orleans and proceed to Obtain a Loan of the Stated Amount of  
 One Hundred Thousand dollars for the use and benefit of the Government  
 Instituted by the Legal Representatives of the Free People of Texas and  
 to receive in the name of this Authority all donations which the Philan-  
 thropy of a Free and Magnanimous people may offer and as security for  
 the above authorized Loan we hereby appoint and constitute the said Ed-  
 mund Andrews [& Thomas F McKinney or either of them] our General  
 Agent in the City of New Orleans to Negotiate for said Loan on the best

mail routes was adopted;<sup>2</sup> and on the 31st a form was adopted for letters of marque and reprisal.<sup>3</sup>]

possible terms according to the private Instructions furnished by this Council and hereby Authorizing said General Agent to Give as security for the sum or sums Boriéd in accordance to these Resolutions such Pledge as circumstances may Require of the faith of this Government and the Public Domains in form according to the usages of the United States of the North. This General Council of all Texas now in session by virtue of their Powers [being] as the [Only] existing [Legislative and executive] Government [now in] of Texas pledge themselves and the Faith of the General Convention of Texas when assembled to Ratify confirm and Justify all acts done by our General Agent in accordance with the Foregoing Resolutions

Done in the Council Hall at San Felipe de Austin this 27th day of October 1835

Signed R R Royall  
President.

A. Houston, Secty.

Archives of Texas, A, file 1 No. 11.

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San Felipe de Austin  
October 27th 1835.

To Messrs. McKinney & Williams  
Much esteemed Sir,

In accordance with the accompanying documents you will go as early as possible to the city of New Orleans, and proceed to the discharge of the duties therein expressed.

You will receive for your private instructions to so act, as not to expose the credit of Texas until you have ascertained by indirect enquiries that your purpose can be effected, and be governed according to circumstances, not exposing the object of your Mission, in relation to a loan, unless there is a probability of success.

You will adopt such course as your good judgement may direct, in the particular method of negotiating the loan, drawing the bonds on other obligations, in such sums as the convenience of the parties may require, executing said bonds or obligations, bearing an interest of the rate of six per cent per annum, payable in installments, varying from four to fifteen years, which, however, you may be at liberty to use your discretion in the propriety of shortening, except the first payment, as circumstances may indicate.

In relation to the times of payment of interest, you will, if necessary, contract for its payment in yearly, half yearly or quarterly payments. If you find serious difficulty in effecting a loan to the full amount, you will accept of so much as you can obtain, forwarding the first amounts to this

council, or the convention if in session. And as soon as your mission is at an end, ship the money you may receive to Velasco or Quintana, previously effecting insurance on it at as low rates as it can be obtained.

In making your pledge you will be governed by the necessities of the case, whether you pledge the Public Faith, the Public Domain, or both.

This Council will limit the Price of such obligations at the rate of Eighty Dollars for each hundred, suggesting the propriety of keeping these instructions to yourself, and effect the arrangement in every particular on the best possible terms.

Signed R R Royall  
President

A Houston, Secty  
Archives of Texas, A, file 1 No. 9.

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<sup>2</sup>The committee to whom the subject of mail routes was referred Report

That during the present interesting period in the affairs of Texas facilities of communication between the different parts of the country are all important and the best interests of the people clearly require that weekly mails be established on the following routs and that they be immediately put in operation to wit.

1st From San Felipe de Austin by Whitesides' in Coles settlement Washington & Nacogdochez to San Augustine.

2nd From San Felipe by Orozimbo Columbia Brazoria & Quintana to Velasco

3 From San Augustine by Zavala to Bevils Mill

4 From San Felipe by Harrisburg & Liberty to Belems Ferry on the Sabine River, and so soon as it can be done with safety to the mail, From San Felipe de Austin to Bexar

This committee beg leave further to report that it is expedient and necessary at this time that some suitable person be by this General Council appointed to take charge of, and have the superintendence of the Post Office establishment as Post Master General and that in their opinion John Rice Jones of San Felipe is compitent and will be faithful in the discharge of the duties of said office. Whereupon it was Resolved by the General Council of Texas that having full faith and confidence in the integrity & qualification of the said John Rice Jones of San Felipe he is hereby appointed Post Master General of Texas, which appointment shall be subject to the confirmation or rejection of the convention, whose duty it shall be to appoint and commission assistants and deputies, & establish Post offices at such places as shall appear to him expedient on the post roads that are or may be established by this council or other authorized body. He shall give his assistant Postmasters & all other persons employed by him instructions relative to their duty. He shall contract with persons for carrying the mail on all post roads that are or may be established by the proper authorities. He shall require all Post masters by him appointed to account to him for all moneys they may have received for

postages up to the 31st day of December 1835 & thereafter to account to him quarterly. He shall superintend the business of the department and discharge all the duties that may be assigned to it and generally to take for his guide & the government of the Post office establishment the laws, rules, instructions, & forms of the General Post office in the United States of America.

And for the better fulfillment of the duties of his office & the furtherance of the object of this committee the said John Rice Jones is hereby authorized to open subscriptions by himself, his deputies, & such other persons as he may appoint for the purpose of obtaining contributions or loans of money to aid in carrying this project into immediate operation, which sums of money so obtained by him are to be refunded as soon as the receipts of the Post office department will enable the Post Master General to do so. And it shall be his duty to account quarterly to the ayuntamiento or other properly constituted authority for all money which he may receive from postages or otherwise.

Be it further resolved That the Post Master Genl be & he is hereby authorized to ask and demand and receive the following rates of postage upon all letters & packets transported by mail (excepting such as are hereafter excepted).

For every letter composed of a single sheet of paper conveyed any distance under 20 miles  $6\frac{1}{2}$  cents; over 20 and not exceeding 50 miles  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; over 50 & not exceeding 100 miles  $18\frac{3}{4}$  cents; over 100 miles and not exceeding 200 miles 25 cents; and all over 200 miles  $37\frac{1}{2}$  cents and upon all ship letters six and one-fourth cents shall be charged in addition to the above rates, which it shall be the duty of all masters of vessels to deposit in the first or nearest office on their entering within the Territory of the State. All letters or packets directed to or from the Postmaster General his assistants & deputies shall be free of postage as also all communications to or from the President & members of the Genl Council & the President of the Consultation, members and Secretary, during the time of their being engaged in transacting public business. The commander in chief of the army and all other officers thereof who may have communications to make or receive while in the public service shall be received and conveyed free of postage.

For every double letter or letter composed of two pieces of paper double the rates above mentioned, and for every packet of letters weighing one ounce quadruple those rates; and in that proportion for all greater weights.

And for the postage on newspapers published in Texas, within one hundred miles of the General Post office the Post Masters are authorized to charge & receive one cent each; and for all newspapers carried in the mail over one hundred miles or that are printed out of the State there shall [be] a postage of one & a half cents charged thereon, which post

278      *Texas Historical Association Quarterly.*

masters are hereby authorized to require the payment of one quarter postage in advance and without such payment not to deliver the newspapers.

The postage on magazines and pamphlets shall be as follows to wit:

For each sheet carried not over 25 miles two cents.

    "   "   "       "       over 25, under fifty four cents.

    "   "   "       "       over 50, 6 $\frac{1}{4}$

Adopted this 30th Oct 1835.

R R Royall  
President of Council

A. Houston Secty  
Archives of Texas, A, file 1 No. 15.

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\*Council Hall, San Felipe  
de Austin Oct 31st 1835.

This is to authorize as master —— commanding the —— to Cruise on the high seas and in Mexican Ports and to Capture or make prizes of All Mexican armed vessels and Mexican supplies or munitions of war, whatever while the port to which she is bound is under the Influence of the late declared form of Central Government or if the port from which she last sailed is under said Government or if papers orders or commissions are found on board of her of an official Nature emanating from said Government.

Hereby authorizing You in the name of this General Counsel of Texas—to board all vessels sailing under Mexican Colors first hailing and in all cases proceeding according to the laws of nations in such cases; and in case a refusal to have her papers examined you will treat her as an enemy according to the rules of war. You will be particular at all times to carry the flag of the Mexican Republic.

Signed R R Royall  
Presdt

A. Houston Secty  
Archives of Texas, A, file 1 No. 13.